## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00882 281020Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 MCE-00 ACDA-12 COME-00 /083 W -------060888 281337Z /45

R 280922Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6672 INFO SECDEF WASHDC/ISA/DSAA AMEMBASSY JIDDA HQ USAF WASHDC/LG/FT

CONFIDENTIAL KHARTOUM 0882

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, SU

SUBJ: LOCKHEED LONG RANGE SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH SUDAN

- 1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 20 TO AMBASSADOR FROM DR. BAHA AL DIN MUHAMMED IDRIS, MINISTER FOR THE PRESIDENCY REGARDING LOCKHEED SUPPORT AGREEMENT. REFERRING TO RECENT TURNOVER OF FIRST C-130 TO SUDANESE AIR FORCE, MINISTER WRITES QUOTE WE VIEW THIS TRANSFER AS THE BEGINNING OF AN EXPANDING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP THAT WILL FURTHER CEMENT THE STRONG TIES BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE
- 2. PRINCIPAL SUBSTANTIVE PORTION OF LETTER IS QUOTE WITH THE TRANSFER OF THIS AIRCRAFT I AM REMINDED OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE SULTAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE & AVIATION IN THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA AUTHORIZING THE SEPARATION OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FROM THE UNITED STATES FOREIGN MILITARY SAGDS PROGRAM. IT IS OUR DESIRE THAT THIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BE CONTRACTED DIRECTLY BETWEEN LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT SERVICE COMPANY AND OUR GOVERNMENT SO THAT WE WILL HAVE CONTINUING LONG RANGE SUPPORT CONFIDENTIAL.

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FOR THIS IMPORTANT PROGRAM. UNQUOTE MINISTER ASKS THAT APPROPRIATE US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BE NOTIFIED OF SUDANGOV DESIRES.

3. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: WE HAVE KNOWN FOR SOME TIME THAT SUDANGOV WISHES TO ENTER INTO LONG RANGE SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH LOCKHEED. BASED ON FEBRUARY 20 LETTER IT APPEARS THAT SAUDIS HAVE AGREED

FINANCE THIS CONTRACT. APPEARS THEREFORE THAT PROVIDED USG AGREES SUDANGOV AND LOCKHEED CAN PROCEED TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACT. AMBASSADOR SHOULD REPLY TO MINISTER'S LETTER AND DEPARTMENT REQUESTED ADVISE EMBASSY ASAP AND PROVIDE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE TO BE INCORPORATED IN HIS LETTER.

BERGUS

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## Message Attributes

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